

140 *THE CASTAWAYS OF
THE FLAG*

sight of a sail, telling herself that a
light might
appear in the far offing.

The sun was sinking rapidly already,
among
clouds driven from the north, and it
would mean at
least two hours' march through dense
darkness to
reach Turtle Bay.

Fritz began again:

" Jenny, I beg you, go ! No doubt to-
morrow
will be enough for us. We shall be back
in the
evening."

Jenny cast a last look all round her.
All had
risen, ready to make a start. The
faithful albatross
was fluttering from rock to rock, while
the other
birds, sea-mews, gulls and divers, flew
back to their
holes in the cliff, uttering parting
screams. ^

The young woman realised that she
must do
as her husband advised, and regretfully
she said:
. " Let us go."

Suddenly the boatswain sprang to his
feet, and
making an ear-trumpet of his hand,
listened
intently.

A report, muffled by the distance,
was audible
from the north*

" A gun! " exclaimed John Block.